



## 2019 Advocacy Priorities

Project Child Success (PCS) is a community initiative in Pierce County with over 140 organizations and individuals working together to achieve the vision that all children thrive in nurturing relationships and environments. Partners of PCS advocate for policies and programs that align with this vision. Our approach to advocacy is as follows:

### CATEGORIES

- **Watch** – Issues in which we are not actively involved, but are important because they affect children and families directly or indirectly in Pierce County.
- **Involved** – Issues that we are following closely and are involved in conversation about
- **Advocate** – Issues we actively advocate for because they are essential to our priorities.

### CRITERIA

PCS partners have agreed to use the Strengthening Families Protective Factors framework as a theory of change. The five protective factors include:

- Parental resilience
- Social connections
- Concrete support in times of need
- Knowledge of parenting and child development
- Social emotional development in young children

PCS advocacy efforts must align with the five protective factors. Additionally, PCS is committed to having local voice represented in state policy making. PCS is part of the Washington Communities for Children. Legislative action that impacts regional representation is also prioritized. Criteria for examining a topic's relevance include:

- Whether it will cause a loss or addition of money and or services to our region.
- If it has strong community support.
- If it advances racial equity.
- If it has the potential to improve the lives of children and families in Pierce County.

In addition, we examine advocacy issues with a racial equity lens. This means evaluating the impact policies have on children and families furthest from opportunity, by asking the question: How does it effect the structures that distribute resources to children and families furthest from opportunity?

The process for identifying advocacy issues is to use the [2019 Advocacy Worksheet](#).